the Super Bazar and the Kendriya Bhandar;

(b) the reasons for high margin of profit by the Super Bazar;

(c) the steps taken to bring the rate of margin of profit to that of the Kendriya Bhandar and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any indent proforma has been introduced in the Super Bazar and the Kendriya Bhandar whereby it can be known as to what are the consumer/grocery items that have/are not being indented by the branch stores;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not the steps taken to introduce the same forthwih;

(f) whether the regional distribution centres/godowns are not placing indents in respect of all the items every month that are on the inventory of these institutions; and

(g) if so, the reasons for discriminating the suppliers and denying the consumers the right for selection of items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Margin of profit charged by Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar on grocery items, consumer goods and items sold to Government Departments varies from 5—15 per cent in case of Super Bazar and 5—9 per cent in Kendriya Bhandar.

(b) and (c) The margin is always fixed on reasonable basis depending on the quality, market rate as well as expenses incurred in retail sale of the items.

(d) and (e) Both Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar have introduced proformae for getting idents from the Branch stores to effect supplies according to their needs This proforma includes details of stock in hand and the fresh supply needed to all the items dealt with in the Branch stores.

(f) and (g) Indents by the godowns/Regional Distribution Centres for purchasts are sent on the basis of the stock lying in the godowns and the demands for the particular items. Hence, there is no question of discrimination for placing indents for purchases.

Fair pricing in Super Bazar

741. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Uchit Mulya Sambhandhi Super Bazar Ke dave par sawal" appearing in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated 23rd May, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the extent to which the news report is correct and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Super Bazar participated in open tender for supply of Phenyl to DTC and quoted rates for supply in 5 litres and 15 litres tin, whereas one of its supplier, registered with Super Bazar quoted rates in 200 litres barrel pack. Rates quoted by supplier in 200 litres barrel pack were lower but this pack was not on the approved list of Super Bazar. There was no irregularity.

(d) Since there was no irregularity, no action has been taken.